

TIVERTON CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Regular meeting minutes: August 8, 2007

1: Call to order

Town Clerk Nancy Mello called the first meeting of the Tiverton Charter Review Commission (the Commission) to order at 7:00 pm at the Tiverton Town Hall.

Members present: All

2: Election of officers

Diane Harris nominated Frank Marshall for Chairman, seconded by Richard Joslin. Bob Koochy nominated Cecil Leonard for Chairman, seconded by Laura Epke.

Votes were taken in reverse order of nominations. Cecil Leonard was elected Chairman by vote of 8 to 1, with Diane Harris opposed.

Laura Epke was elected Vice Chairman by unanimous vote.

Deborah Pallasch was elected Secretary by unanimous vote.

Richard Joslin was elected Director of Publicity by unanimous vote.

3. Organizational Discussion

Discussion ensued regarding input from various groups and public. All agreed that groups would be invited to give input regarding suggested charter changes. The Commission would then prioritize the various suggestions based on the need and supporting arguments presented.

Tentative Initial dates set were as follows:

September 26, 2007 – Town Council, Treasurer, Town Administrator

October 10, 2007 – School Committee, Superintendent, Town Clerk

October 24, 2007 – Budget Committee, Board of Canvassers

Dates for other boards and commissions would be discussed on September 12, 2007.

The Commission members asked for and received from Town Clerk Nancy Mello a copy of the ballot question relating to the Financial Town Meeting as it appeared

on the August 9, 2006 Special Election ballot. Question, which was passed by the electorate, read as follows:

“Shall the Town develop a proposal to replace the Financial Town Meeting and to present such a proposal to the voters?”

Discussion ensued as to intent of the voters and any requirements this may place on the Commission.

“Drop dead date” by which the Commission should have its recommendations to the Town Council was discussed. Laura Epke volunteered to develop a timeline, including that date, for the members.

4. Scheduling Dates for Meetings

Consensus was reached that meetings would be held on the second and forth Wednesday of the month at Town Hall, with the possibility of more frequent meeting in the future as needed. All were in agreement that next meeting date would be September 12, 2007.

It was agreed that meetings would start at 7:00 pm and end at 10:00 pm.

5. Other Business

Items for the next agenda would include:

Mission and goals for the Commission
Establish dates for other boards and commissions

6. Adjournment

The Commission’s August 8, 2007 regular meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Minutes recorded and compiled by Deborah Pallasch, Secretary.